

**JOINT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**69A Hagood Avenue**  
**Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107**  
**and the**  
**S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**  
**OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**  
**1362 McMillan Avenue, Suite 400**  
**Charleston, South Carolina 29405**

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N #2005-1W-051-P

4 MARCH 2005

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), and the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.) an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

**TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND**  
**c/o OLSEN ASSOCIATES, INC.**  
**4438 HERSCHEL STREET**  
**JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32210**

for a permit to perform beach nourishment and install six detached rubble (rock) mound breakwaters along the shoreline of the

**PORT ROYAL SOUND**

at a location along 2,100 feet of the Port Royal Sound Shoreline about 1,700 feet north of Fish Haul Creek on Hilton Head Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina (Latitude 32.2414°, Longitude 80.6837°)

using sand from an offshore borrow site, Joiner Shoals, offshore of the northern end of Hilton Head Island (Latitude 32.1613°, Longitude 80.6233°).

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

**NOTICE**

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

**12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, 4 APRIL 2005**

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

The proposed work consists of the placement of approximately 80,000 cubic yards of sand along 2,100 feet of shoreline of Port Royal Sound on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

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using a hydraulic cutter-head dredge and either pumped directly through a pipeline to the beach or pumped to a stockpile area on the Atlantic shorefront during construction of a larger project, (P/N 2004-1W-319-P that is still pending approval) and trucked to the project site. The project also includes the construction of six detached rubble mound breakwaters that will measure 90' x 30' and have a crest elevation of +6 ft, NGVD as shown on sheets 2, 3, 4 and 5 of 5. The plans on sheet 5 of 5 also indicate an area of *Spartina* planting behind five of the six structures. The applicant is seeking approval to construct this project anytime throughout the year. The applicant also is seeking approval to relocate turtle nests if a nest is deposited in the area prior to or during construction of the project. The purpose of this project, according to the applicant, is to restore a localized reach of highly eroded shoreline and reduce future erosional stress along the same shoreline.

**NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION  
69A Hagood Avenue  
Charleston, South Carolina 29403-5107.**

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact 15 acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is likely to adversely affect the loggerhead sea turtle, *Caretta caretta*. The project is not in an area that is likely to adversely affect designated critical habitat

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of the piping plover, *Charadrius melodus*. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service to initiate formal consultation on these species and verification that critical habitat that is not present in the area which would be affected, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

The District Engineer has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest and will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act and, as appropriate, the criteria established under authority of Section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

REGULATORY DIVISION

Refer to: P/N #2005-1W-051-P

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If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact me at 843-329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra W. King". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debra W. King  
Project Manager  
Regulatory Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### **Town of Hilton Head Island, S.C. Spa Shoreline Restoration and Protection Project**

Applicant: Town of Hilton Head Island  
Agent: Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, Florida

The proposed project is located about 1,700 feet north of Fish Haul Creek along the Port Royal Sound shoreline of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina (see Permit Sheets 1 and 2). The project will include the placement of approximately 80,000 (+/-10 percent) cubic yards of sand along 2,100 feet of shoreline and the construction of six (6) detached rubble mound (rock) breakwaters along a portion of the Port Royal Sound shoreline (see Permit Sheet 3). The purpose of the project is to restore a localized reach of highly eroded Sound shoreline and reduce future erosional stress along that same shoreline. The project will replace sand lost from that shoreline due to recent significant erosion and protect upland properties and vegetation from additional shoreline retreat.

The sand fill will be initially shaped into the typical construction berm configuration. The upper portion of the berm will slope mildly from about the +8 ft NGVD elevation at the existing bluff to +7 ft NGVD at the seaward edge of the berm. From there, the fill will slope to the existing seabed at an approximate slope of 1:20 (i.e., 1 vertical unit to 20 horizontal unit) (see Permit Sheet 4). Fully developed berm widths will vary from about 100 to 135 feet at the + 7 ft NGVD elevation. The variation is due to the irregular configuration of the existing, eroded shoreline. The fill will taper to the existing shoreline at both the north and south ends. At the southern end of the project, the fill will be fully developed to the southern extent of the "White" parcel and taper to the existing shoreline within 200 feet. The fill will initially be constructed in a relatively straight, continuous configuration. Following construction, the fill will "equilibrate" (i.e., shift) in both plan form and section in response to the natural wave climate and the influence of six (6) small detached rock breakwaters (See Sheet 5).

The beach quality sand required for the project will be excavated from the permitted limits of the Joiner Shoals borrow site (P/N 2004-1W-319-P -- *Pending*). The sediment conditions within the borrow area have been investigated in detail (Olsen Associates, Inc., 2004) and are compatible with the native beach sediment conditions along the proposed project shoreline. The sand will be excavated by hydraulic cutter-head dredge and either pumped through a pipeline directly to the beach or pumped to a stockpile area on the Atlantic shorefront during construction of the larger beach renourishment project (P/N 2004-1W-319-P – *Pending*) and trucked to the project site.

The project will likewise include the construction of six (6) rubble mound (rock) breakwaters situated immediately seaward of the project beach, but fully detached from the shoreline. The structures will be built upon the existing seabed, seaward of the sand fill. Each structure will have a crest elevation of +6 ft, NGVD with side slopes of 1:2 (i.e., 1 vertical unit to 20 horizontal unit) (see Permit Sheet 4). Each breakwater will be approximately 70 feet long and there will be approximately a 100 ft gap between adjacent structures. The six structures will occupy about 0.3 acres of the intertidal area. Along with the beach fill (about 9.7 acres), the total project footprint upon the sandy intertidal substrate will be approximately 10 acres.

The Applicant seeks permission to construct the breakwaters and sand fill anytime throughout the year. It is expected that the sand fill will be constructed coincident with the larger, island-wide beach renourishment project. Depending upon the schedule for the larger project, the Town may elect to construct the breakwaters prior to sand fill placement and under a separate contract. The construction of the breakwaters without fill would serve to provide increase shoreline stability along the eroded shoreline prior to the placement of the 80,000 cubic yards of sand fill.

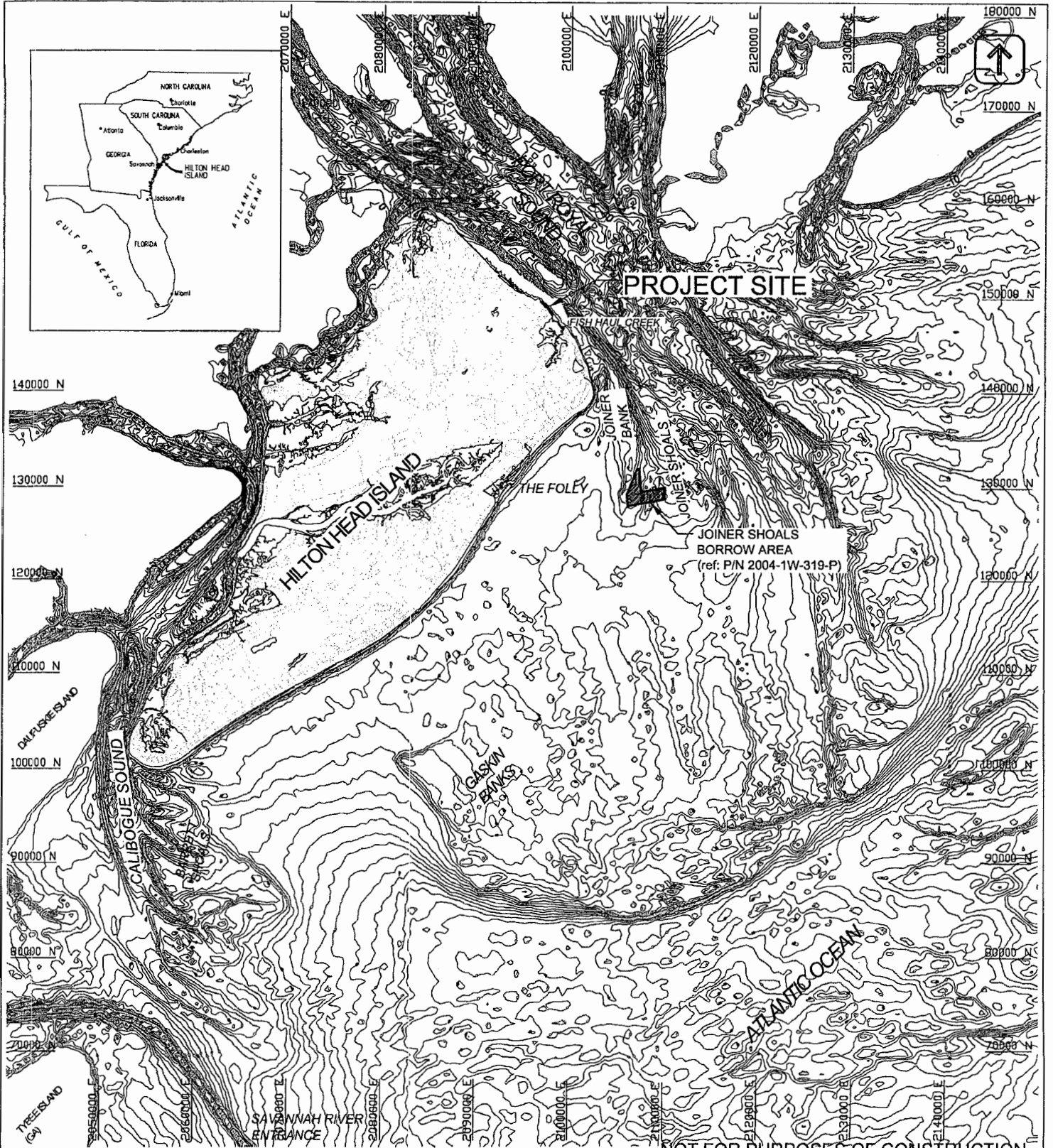
As with past beach nourishment projects constructed at Hilton Head Island, the Applicant intends to monitor the shoreline for marine turtle nesting activities during construction. It is noted, however, that this has not historically been a highly active nesting area for marine turtles. Furthermore, the eroded condition of the shoreline would make successful nesting and hatching problematic at this location. Should a turtle nest be deposited within the project limits prior to or during construction, it would be relocated to a suitable location to increase the likelihood of a successful hatch. Authorization for nest relocation (if necessary) is being sought under this Permit Application.

All construction activities will occur well above the mean low water shoreline elevation (approximately -3.3 ft, NGVD). At this location, the intertidal platform exceeds 1,050 feet in width.

It is noted that a section of the extreme northeast end of Hilton Head Island facing the Atlantic Ocean has been delineated as *Critical Habitat* for the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*). This location of the designated area on Hilton Head Island is depicted in **Attachment B**. The proposed activities addressed by the application are not located in or near this designated area and therefore will not serve to adversely impact the habitat.

#### References:

Olsen Associates, Inc. (2004). "*Hilton Head Island, SC 2005/06 Beach Renourishment Project Offshore Sand Search Investigation*", engineering report prepared for the Town of Hilton Head Island, SC, Olsen Associates, Inc., Jacksonville, FL, July 2004.



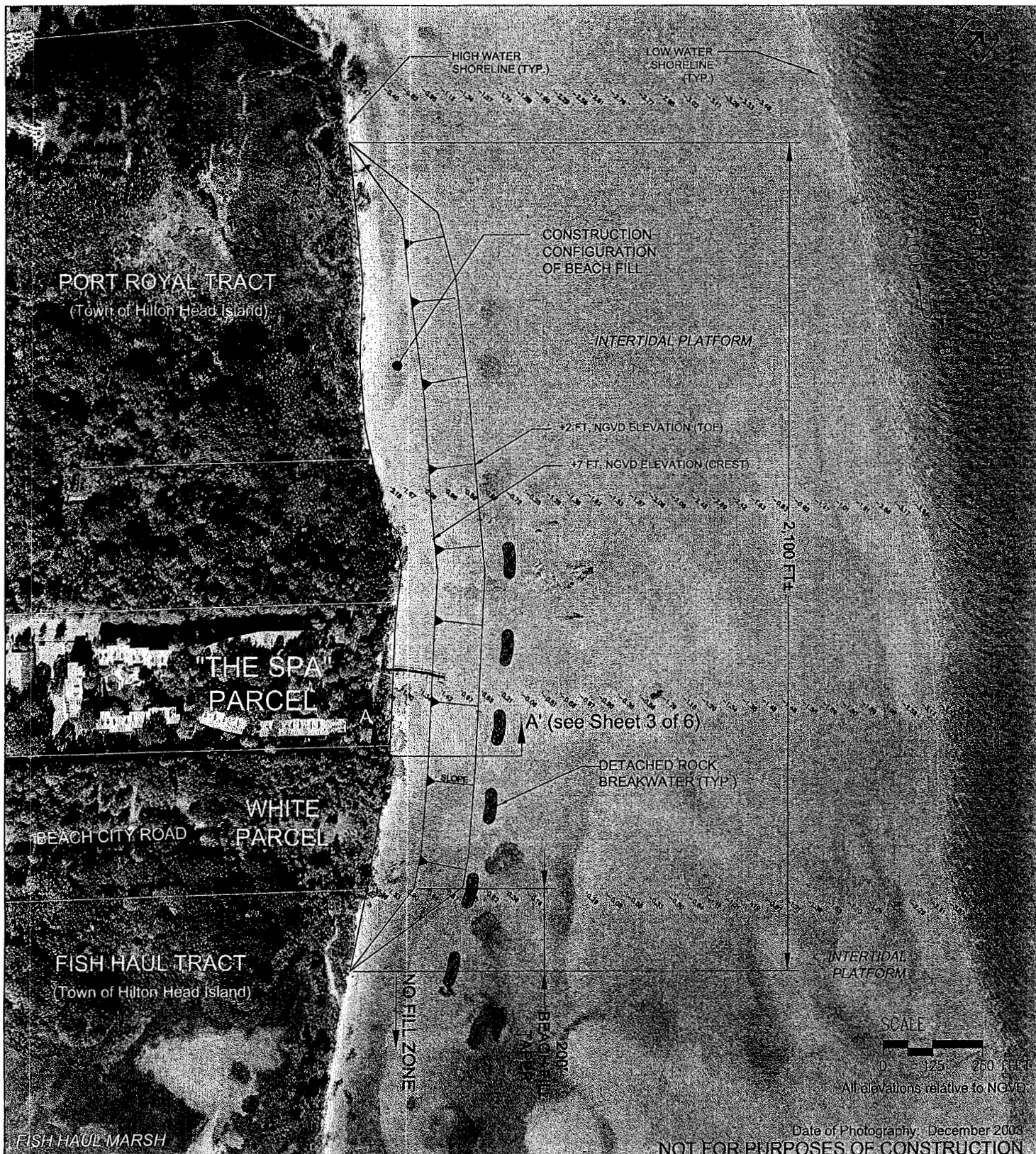
APPLICANT:  
TOWN OF  
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC

TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND  
SPA SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT

PROJECT LOCATION  
2005-1W-051-P

DATE:	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE:
			01/15/04
			DRAWN BY:
			CGC
			SHEET
			1 OF 5

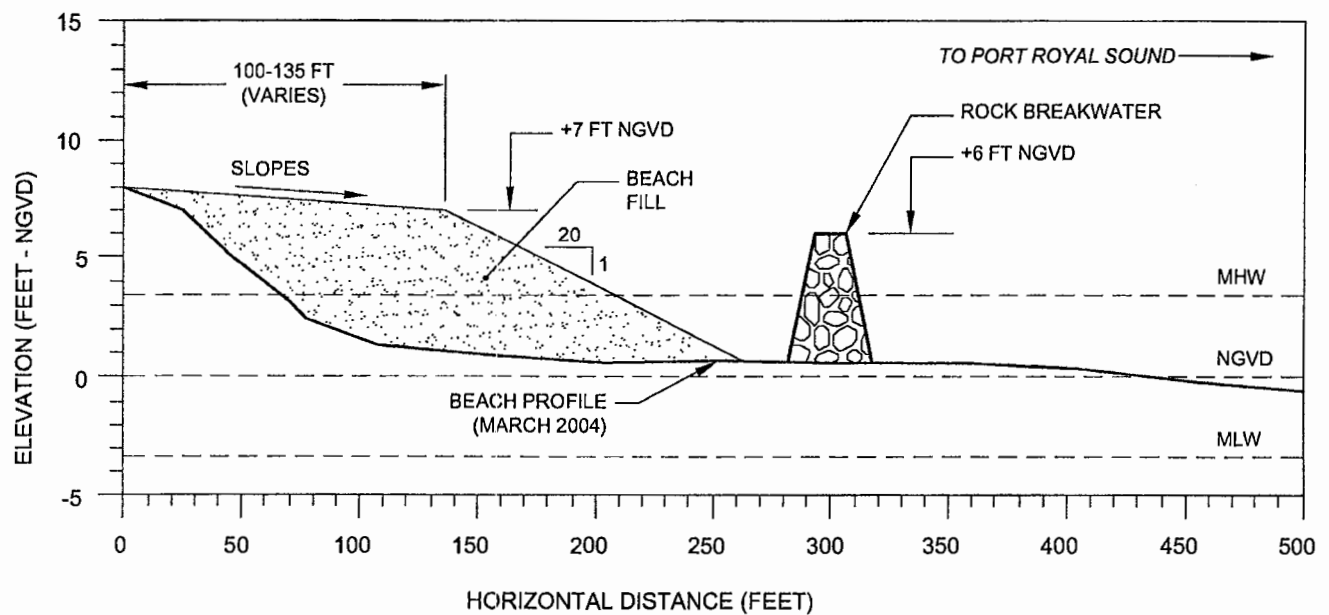




Date of Photography: December 2004  
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:  TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC	TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND SPA SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT 2005-1W-051-P BEACH AND BREAKWATER PLAN	DATE:	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE:
					01/15/05
					DRAWN BY: CGC
					SHEET 2 OF 5



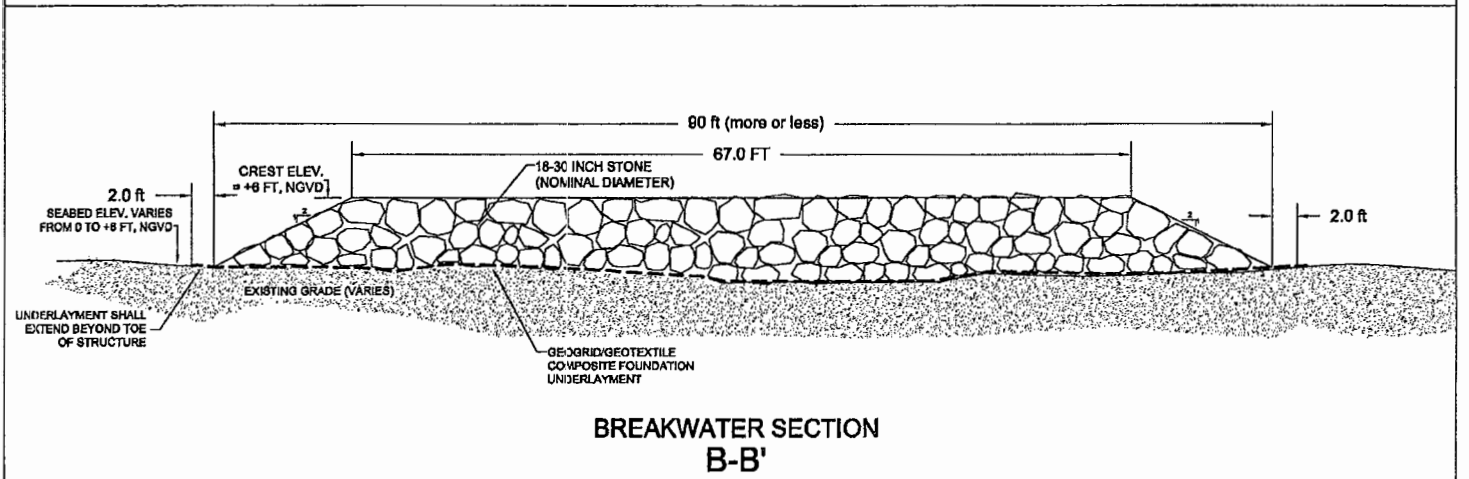
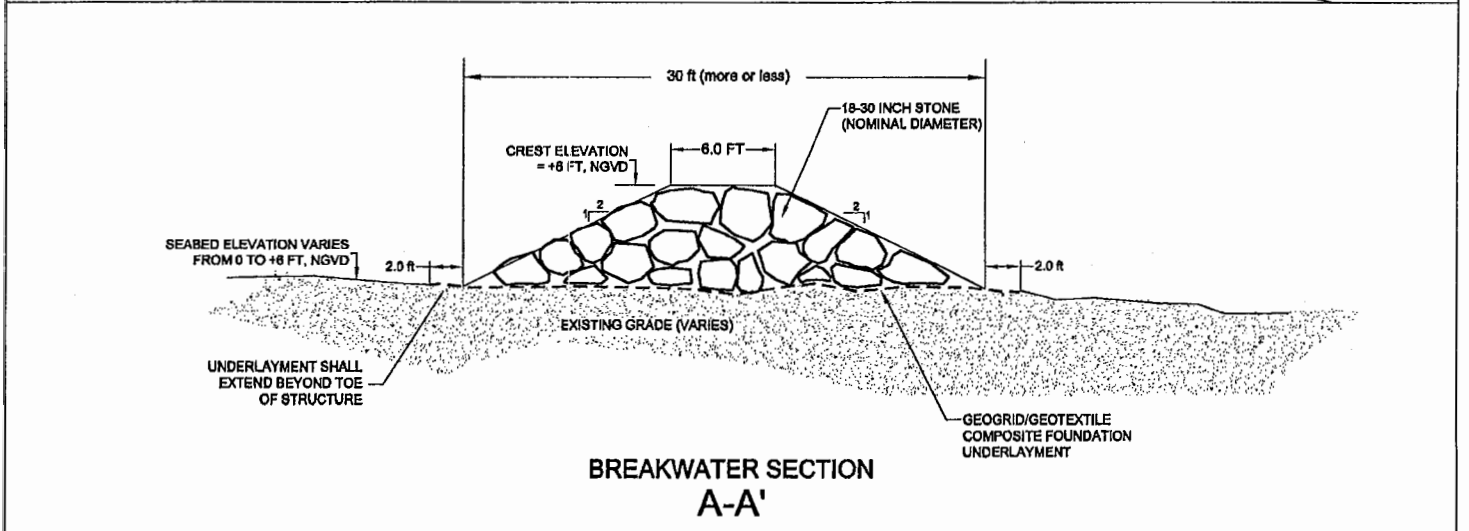
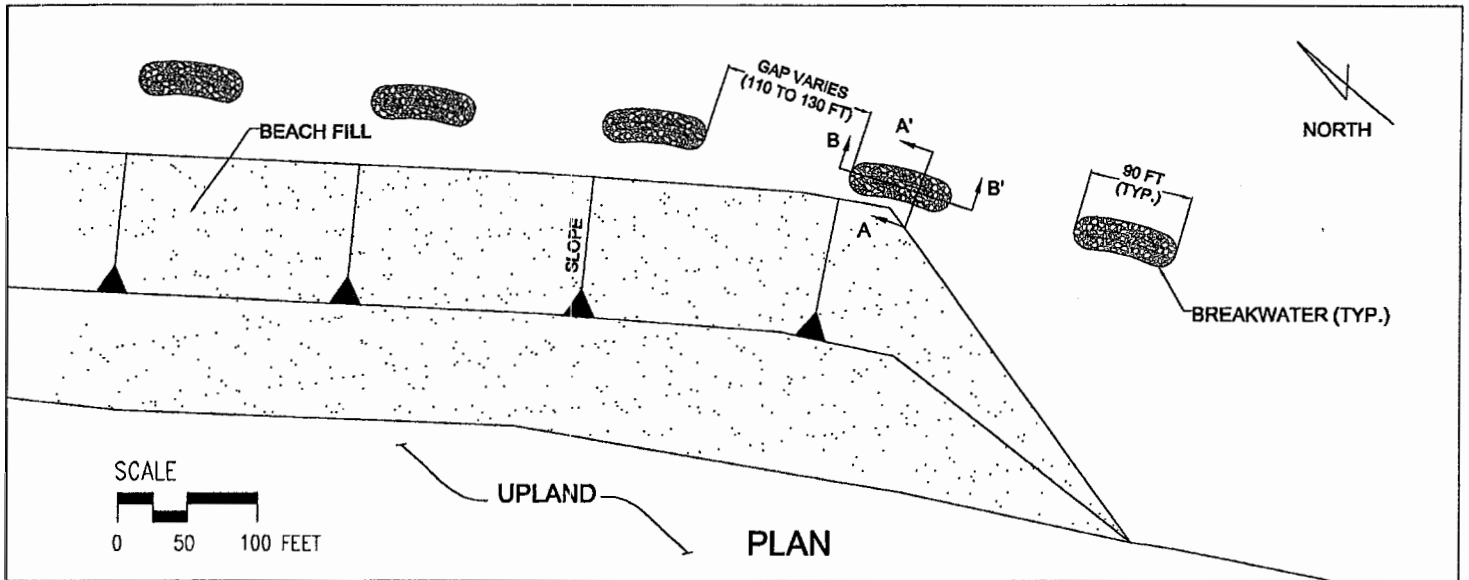


SECTION  
A-A'

10(H) : 1(V) DISTORTION

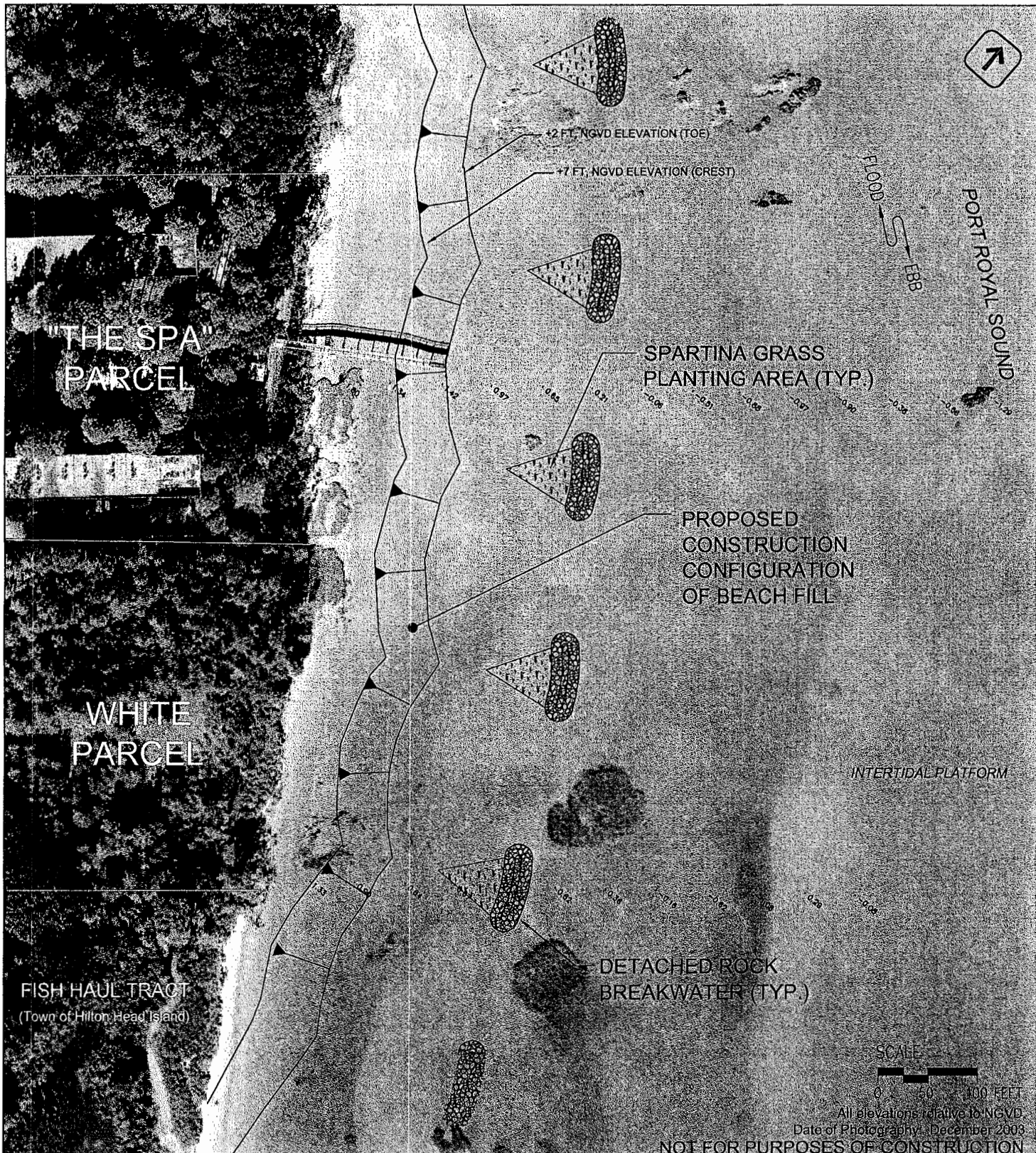
NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:  TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC	TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND SPA SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT  TYPICAL BEACH FILL SECTION 2005-1W-051-P	DATE:	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE:
					01/15/05
					DRAWN BY: CGC
					SHEET 3 OF 5



NOT FOR PURPOSES OF CONSTRUCTION

APPLICANT:  TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC	TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND SPA SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT  BREAKWATER DETAILS 2005-1W-051-P	DATE:	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE:
					01/15/05
					DRAWN BY: CGC
					SHEET 4 OF 5



APPLICANT:  TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC	TOWN OF HILTON HEAD ISLAND SPA SHORELINE RESTORATION PROJECT  SPARTINA GRASS PLANTING PLAN	DATE:	APPROVED	REVISION	DATE:
					01/15/05
					DRAWN BY: CGC
					SHEET 5 OF 5